

## Farm Service Agency, USDA

## § 729.314

(i) Such peanuts are used for purposes other than for:

(A) Food or feed, or

(B) Seed to produce peanuts for food.

(ii) The director of the applicable publicly-owned agricultural experiment station, including State-operated seed organizations, furnishes to the State FSA Executive Director:

(A) A list, by county, showing for each farm on which such peanuts are grown for experimental or research purposes, the name and address of the entity that supplies information; the name of the owner, and operator, if different from the owner, of the farm on which such peanuts are grown; and the acreage of peanuts grown for such experimental or research purposes;

(B) A signed statement that such acreage of peanuts will be grown for experimental and research purposes including breeder and foundation seed; such production of peanuts is necessary for the State-operated program conducted for such purposes by the entity; and such peanuts will be produced under the direction of representatives of such entity; and

(C) Such additional reports, if any, as the Deputy Administrator may require.

(d) *Unique strains used to plant green peanut acreage.* Seed peanuts used to plant peanuts for use as green peanuts shall not be subject to penalty if the county committee determines that such seed peanuts:

(1) Are unique strains of peanuts used for green peanuts.

(2) Are not commercially available, and,

(3) Are used exclusively to plant peanuts for harvest as green peanuts.

### § 729.312 Reduction or waiver of penalty.

(a) *Reduction or waiver of penalty.* The county committee may reduce or waive any penalty required to be assessed by this subpart in cases in which the county committee, with concurrence of the State committee, determines that the violations upon which the penalties were based were unintentional or without knowledge on the part of the parties concerned.

(b) *Time of reduction or waiver.* A penalty may be reduced or waived by an authorized official or committee either

before or after it has been formally assessed. If the reduction or waiver is made before formal assessment, the notice of assessment shall state the amount of reduction or waiver and the basis upon which the reduction or waiver was made.

(c) *Reconsideration or appeal.* Any person against whom a penalty is assessed under this subpart may, through a request for reconsideration or through an appeal, as applicable, request that the penalty be reduced or waived.

### § 729.313 Failure to comply with program.

Any person who has failed to comply with the provisions in this part because such person was misinformed or relied on the advice of an authorized representative of the Secretary in rendering performance under this part, and such person believed in good faith that such misinformation or advice met the requirements of the program as set forth in these regulations, may file a request with the State committee for review of an adverse county committee ruling with respect to such failure to comply. After review of the case, the State committee shall submit the case to the Deputy Administrator with its recommendation. The Deputy Administrator may grant relief as deemed appropriate in such case. This authority, however, does not extend to cases where such person knew or had sufficient reason to know that the action or advice of the representative of the Secretary upon which the person relied was improper or erroneous, or where the adverse action is based on changes made in the statutory authority of the program or changes in regulations issued for the program.

### § 729.314 Schemes and devices.

(a) Penalties shall be assessed in such manner as will correct for and nullify any action in which a person has knowingly, whether passively or actively:

(1) Engaged in, acquiesced in, or adopted any scheme or device which tends to defeat the purpose of the regulations in this part,

(2) Made any fraudulent representation, or

(3) Misrepresented any fact affecting a program determination.